UKIAH FIELD OFFICE

Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Prepared by:

U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management Ukiah Field Office, Ukiah, California

And

EDAW, Inc.

San Francisco, CA

September 2005

UKIAH FIELD OFFICE

DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management California State Office

Approved:

Mike Pool State Director

September 2005



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ukiah Field Office 2550 N. State Street Ukiah, CA 95482 www.blm.ca.gov/ukiah



In Reply Refer To: 1600 (CA-340)

Dear Receiver:

Included for your review and comment is the Ukiah Field Office (UFO) Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMP/EIS). Our Draft RMP was prepared to meet the requirements of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 by updating and expanding the Field Office's original 1976 Management Framework Plan. In preparing this document the Ukiah Field Office actively engaged in the Department of the Interior's management practice of consultation, communication, and cooperation. We appreciate to date what our constituents have provided to us.

The purpose of the Draft RMP/EIS is to update Ukiah's existing land use planning decisions to better address current issues. The Ukiah RMP, when completed, will provide goals, objectives, and management actions for the approximately 270,000 surface acres of public land and 214,000 acre subsurface mineral estate within the jurisdiction of the Ukiah Field Office. Our planning effort has been comprehensive in nature. We evaluated past planning decisions, looked into addressing and resolving emerging issues, and updated existing conditions with current information.

Your review and written comments are appreciated. Comments concerning the Draft RMP/EIS will be considered in preparing Ukiah's Proposed RMP/Final EIS. All written comments received including names and addresses, will be incorporated into the final document. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or disclosure from the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. To be considered, comments must be postmarked no later than 90 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability for this document in the Federal Register. Submit comments to:

E-mail address: ukiahrmp@ca.blm.gov

or

Mail Address: Bureau of Land Management

Attention: Eliseo Ilano 2550 North State Street Ukiah, CA 95482

Sincerely,

Rich Burns Ukiah Field Manager

User's Guide Draft RMP/Draft EIS Web Version

The Ukiah Field Office Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes an executive summary, six chapters, maps, figures and appendices.

The **Executive Summary** is a synopsis of the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. The respective alternatives are compared, and the effects of the alternatives on the resources, processes, and users are summarized here.

Chapter 1 (Introduction) contains introductory material for the Draft RMP/Draft EIS. It describes the purpose and need for the plan; defines the planning area; reviews the issues identified and addressed through the scoping and planning processes; outlines the planning criteria and the planning process; describes the overall mission, vision, and management approach for the Field Office; and identifies the plan goals and objectives.

Chapter 2 (Alternatives) describes the alternative management strategies under consideration. It includes a description of the management approaches common to all alternatives, and a description of each of the four alternatives (which includes the No Action Alternative A)

Chapter 3 (Affected Environment) describes the current environment that would be affected by implementing any of the alternatives, as well as the existing management of those resources. It includes a description of the environmental processes, resources, and major uses related to the issues.

Chapter 4 (Environmental Consequences) describes potential effects and changes to the public lands (and adjacent lands) with the implementation of each of the alternatives.

Chapter 5 (Consultation and Coordination) includes a summary of public involvement and lists of agencies and organizations receiving this document.

Chapter 6 (Bibliography) lists the printed material and individuals cited in this document.

The **Appendices** and **Figures** (including maps) augment the information in this document with additional technical information and illustrations. These can be viewed either by clicking on the item in the bookmarks tab, or by clicking on the blue text link within the document.